



Balanus improvisus

Bay barnacle, Acorn barnacle

Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
 - Competes for food and resources with other species
 - In dense populations of *B. improvisus*, associated species such as midge larvae, copepod crustaceans and juvenile bivalves increase compared to adjacent sites without crusts (Leppäkoski 1999)
 - Aquacultural fouling of blue mussels, oysters and cages
 - Anti-fouling compounds used on ships hulls to prevent establishment pollute marine environments, interferes with food web of fisheries, sharp shells cause injuries to tourists
2. Invasive Potential
 - A facultative self-fertilizer, which may be a favorable trait when establishing and maintaining new populations (Weidema 2000)
3. Geographic Extent
 - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
 - No known controls in marine environment



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Atlantic Coast of North America
2. Introduced: Pacific Coast from Washington to Ecuador
3. Habitat
 - Marine, estuaries, bays, fouling communities
 - The most fresh water tolerant of the barnacles, found further inland where it avoids competition with native species

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments
2. Hull/Surface fouling

Non-Native Locations

1. 56- Puget Trough/ Georgia Basin
2. 57- Oregon, Washington, Vancouver
3. 58- Northern California
4. 59- Southern California Bight
5. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
6. 70- Floridian

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. http://www.rktl.fi/www/uploads/images/Kala/VISEVARIS/2_balanus_improvisus_m_lehtiniemi_p_y_500.jpg
4. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=80>